



**PRESS RELEASE: For Immediate Release**

## **Welcoming Streets Receives Funding from the City of Belleville**

Belleville, Ontario, December 11, 2023 -Danielle Hanoman, Executive Director of the Downtown District Business Improvement Area (BIA) recently presented before the Council to garner support for the extension and amplification of their Welcoming Streets Program in 2024. Focused on securing sustainable funding, Welcoming Streets is actively diversifying its funding streams.

"I am incredibly grateful for the financial support extended by the City of Belleville. Our program is dedicated to addressing the distinct needs of vulnerable community members and downtown stakeholders. With support from the City of Belleville, we can continue utilizing a person-centered and trauma-informed approach, in collaboration with local support organizations, to tackle issues and reduce barriers related to homelessness, mental health, and substance use." says Sara Behring, Welcoming Streets Program Coordinator.

City Council approved the Downtown District request to receive \$140,000 in funding. The Welcoming Streets Outreach Program is eager to commence its work in collaboration with the City of Belleville and local partners. Together,

they aim to make meaningful strides in addressing homelessness and creating a more compassionate and inclusive community for all.

"We extend our deepest gratitude to the City of Belleville for recognizing the importance of our program and for their commitment to creating a more inclusive and supportive community. This success is a testament to the power of collaboration and the shared vision of building a city where everyone feels welcome and supported," says Danielle Hanoman, Executive Director of the Belleville Downtown BIA.

The program's success in the deputation can be attributed to its comprehensive approach, which includes outreach, education, and advocacy. By fostering a sense of community and building bridges between stakeholders, the Welcoming Streets Outreach Program aims to create lasting positive change for individuals facing homelessness.

**For more information, please contact:**

Danielle Hanoman, Executive Director

e-mail: [dhanoman@downtownbelleville.ca](mailto:dhanoman@downtownbelleville.ca)

Phone: 613-968-2242